

WOMAN'S REALM.

IN THE SOCIAL WORLD.

WASHINGTON'S INNER CIRCLE. WHICH IS DIFFICULT TO ENTER.

MANY CONGRESSMEN'S WIVES IGNORANT THAT IT EXISTS—THE ENGLISH LACK OF HUMOR—NO MEN AT SUMMER RESORTS.

"Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise," and the wives of the newly elected Congressmen or other public functionaries who go through a Washington season, beginning with the New Year's jam at the White House and continuing with a round of receptions and teas at the residences of their official friends, a dance or two at the hotels, and—if their husbands be of sufficient importance—a few dinners where they meet other political luminaries and their better halves, generally go home well satisfied, under the pleasing delusion that they have been in touch with the best society in the capital. And not only they, but their neighbors in the two towns are quite impressed with their importance and success, for have not the local papers chronicled their social triumphs together with those of their family, with adjectives galore; "charming and accomplished" for their daughters, "leaders of the world of fashion at the metropolis" for the wives and mothers.

Little do these self-satisfied dames realize, however, that there is a society at Washington the sort of which they have never even seen open and which they cannot enter by reason of their political position if they would have an inner smart set as it were, that is distanced from the many and diverse elements that compose the mixed social conglomerate which the women at large recognize as Washington society. In this social swim are found the Corps Diplomatique, the wealthy residents of Washington itself, and those of other cities who, attracted by the climate and life, have become citizens pro tem, officials who at home are people of the world and have recognized social positions, and the desirable transients, either American or foreign.

All this material goes together to form a most delightful and desirable circle, and whoever passes a winter at the capital without becoming a member of it is "left out" and "left out" is a social Washington from the most attractive and characteristic point of view.

THE SENSE ENGLISH PEOPLE LACK.

"There are six senses nowadays," says a modern philosopher, "that are necessary to a complete and perfect organization—the sense of seeing, of hearing, of tasting, of feeling, of smelling, and of the sense of humor, the latter being as essential for the full enjoyment and appreciation of life as the other recognized sensations." It is a sense, however, that many people are born without; notably, it is said, the English, who fail to see anything funny in what will give an American the greatest delight. In one of Gibbon's drawings he depicts the imaginative Briton seated between two lively American ladies, vainly endeavoring to discover the humor of their lively repartees, the puzzled, vacant, yet anxious-to-understand expression being inevitable. In some tableaux given for a charitable cause, this drawing was represented, and the audience roared with laughter as the well-attired John Bull turned his binocular first on one girl and then on the other, in helpless perplexity. "Now will you tell me what there is funny in that picture?" said an Englishman who happened to be present. "To me it seems absolutely without a point," and the renewed merriment of his auditors did not in the least enlighten him.

"One feels so flat to be taken as a joke when one is a serious," a feeble little joke," said a witty American. "In England I was continually experiencing moralizing, owing to my foolish habit of jesting. Never under any circumstances have I known the British matrons to laugh at my nonsense, and their wisest efforts to find the sense of my remarks nearly reduced me to a state of idiocy. At one house where I was stopping, for instance, I being the last to take my bedroom candle from the table in the hall, found two instead of one. Why, Mrs. A., exclaimed flippantly and foolishly, I should never have suspected you of ritualism, with my two wax tapers. I only need income to make it complete. Oh, Mr. A., cried the good lady in great distress, it was quite an accident. I assure you, I am exceedingly broad in my ideas!"

NO YOUNG MEN TO FLIRT WITH.

Nothing has changed more materially during the last couple of decades than the methods of life of fashionable people at the various watering places. "Where have all the young men gone?" exclaimed the mother of a pair of pretty daughters, who, with her family, had returned from a long residence abroad, and who expected to introduce her girls to a gay season at the various summer resorts, such as she herself had enjoyed a score or more of years ago.

"When I was a girl," she continued, "and spent

EVENING GOWN OF EMBROIDERED GLACE, FINISHED AT THE WAIST

the delicious flowers themselves; later on, with a cretonne covered with yellow daffodils, she decorates her room with a procession of contemporary flowers. Together with the daffodils she has hyacinths, primroses, cowslips, narcissi, etc. Then, in the rose season, she has roses everywhere in bowls, in long-stemmed vases, and their facsimiles on her chintz. In heated summer, when the garden brings in a blaze of mixed flowers, she chooses as her background a cool design of green leaves only. Everything for the next six weeks save the brilliant flower display is green—green and white Japanese rugs on the India matting, green ribbons tying back the leafy branches depicted on the curtains, all cool and verdant. In autumn chrysanthemums in variegated colors serve as a motif for both textiles and decorations, while in winter chintz and floral design give place to ruby velvet, which suggests warmth and luxurious protection from the wintry world without.

THE MEGAPHONE AT SUMMER HOUSES.

The megaphone has become a part of the equipment of the summer veranda, and people half a mile away are no longer startled when they hear their names called, apparently in their immediate neighborhood, when the speaker is quite invisible. At a garden party recently an innovation was a groom in livery standing at the door, megaphone in hand, to call the carriages for the departing guests, an idea which will undoubtedly be followed next winter at large social functions, and prove a great boon to those who wait for their carriage, shivering in the wintry winds.

MANY WOMEN FLORISTS.

A woman who is fond of statistics announces the fact that three hundred women own and manage large greenhouses, and more than six hundred "run" large flower gardens for commercial purposes. Nearly three thousand women are practical florists, and seem to possess an especial knack

MUSLIN MOUNTED OVER LIGHT BLUE GLACE, FINISHED AT THE WAIST

with a sash of blue moire.

SUMMER KINDERGARTENS.

MRS. BARNES, A DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF FROEBEL, EXPLAINS THE WORK.

WHAT A VISITOR SEES IN THE FIFTY-FOURTH-ST. SCHOOL—A TRAINING WHICH NEARLY ALL THE PUPILS HEARTILY ENJOY.

In the Amity Building, No. 312 West Fifty-fourth-st., twenty-five or thirty little children are having a good time these sultry summer days. They are a little kindergarten band, and Miss Minnie Van Derwerker is their teacher. She is a pupil of Mrs. F. Schwallier Barnes, and is to teach the little ones all through the summer months.

A Tribune reporter spent an hour at the Amity school and found Mrs. Barnes herself in charge, with a covey of merry little tots fluttering about her like so many happy chickens about a mother hen. What makes the Amity Kindergarten especially enjoyable now is the large grassy playground into which the schoolroom opens and upon which its high, wide windows look. At a table out on the grass the reporter found Mrs. Barnes and Miss Van Derwerker, with three or four little ones, having their pictures taken for the Tribune. It was interesting to watch the earnest expression on the faces of the children, as they clustered about the table, weaving mats of pretty, colored strips of paper and building marvellous structures of smooth cubes and blocks.

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SOME OF THE GAMES.

"This is to be a plough game," said Mrs. Barnes, as she made herself an animated link in the circle by holding hands with a flaxen-haired rolyoly child, dressed in pink; "now, who will be the farmer and run the plough?" Many puddy little fingers were lifted. A small boy and a smaller girl stepped into the space within the circle. They

boy and girl, and away they marched back to the schoolroom, where Miss Van Derwerker seated them at little tables and began to teach them wonderful things with shining needles, colored balls and cords and all manner of quaint and fascinating looking "gifts."

"This kindergarten is under the supervision of the New-York Kindergarten Association," said Mrs. Barnes, in answer to the reporter's inquiry; "more than twenty of these schools are scattered throughout the city, and the amount of good they do is not easily estimated. The children here are those that are gathered up in the neighborhood, and they are taught free of charge. During the school year, beginning in the fall and closing in June, regularly employed teachers, paid by the association, are in charge. But during the summer the work is carried on by young teachers who love their profession and who enjoy the training without being paid. During July Miss Minnie Van Derwerker, one of my pupils, has charge here, and Miss Charabel Wells, another pupil, will teach during August. Both these young women have recently finished their studies with me and will make the kindergarten their lifework."

THE KINDERGARTEN COURSE.

"How long does it take to fit your pupils for teachers?"

"That depends upon what their training has been before they come to me. If their education has been thorough, I give them a year's course; if not, it takes two years. I want them to have a standard and to be content with nothing that falls short of it."

"How long have you been engaged in kindergarten work?"

"Since 1881. I consider it indispensable training for young children. When a child is three years old it likes to play with other children if it is physically strong. This companionship is good, provided it is directed by an older head. Children must be taught to play with each other in a perfectly fair and honest way; strong, sturdy children must be trained to be considerate of smaller and weaker ones. Companionship takes the conceit out of a child and teaches him the rights of others. It gives him sooner or later a proper self-appreciation, and it is to this that all this is most important knowledge to him."

"There are few laws in the kindergarten; often the children make their own laws and are governed by them. A little one will say to another: 'You can't play with us unless you play fair and are kind.' The great law of kindness—of personal consideration—is soon recognized. A kindergarten is an experimental station for children."

"The various 'gifts' are complete in themselves and teach child accuracy, surety and completeness. He knows that he can accomplish certain results with certain cubes, blocks, cylinders, balls, needles and other kindergarten appliances."

"The heart of a child's mind is quickly discovered in kindergarten training. His mother should visit the school and see how he progresses and find out what he likes best—what he most shows an aptitude for. That knowledge should guide her in her subsequent training."

A NATURAL SYSTEM.

"Kindergarten knowledge is natural knowledge; the child develops naturally and acquires his information in a natural way. Ordinary schooling—the dry detail of arithmetic, the alphabet, spelling and grammar—is conventional knowledge. Every mind is poured into the same educational mould, and so development is artificial. Let the growing, inquiring mind of the young, unconventional child be first developed in an unconventional, natural way. When school life really begins the child soon learns to know that certain routine work is necessary to obtain a necessary and desired result, and he will make the effort to compass the task. While kindergarten material (the 'gifts') is varied, yet it is limited; only a certain result will come from the employment of certain materials. The child quickly learns this and is unconsciously profited by it."

"I wish you would emphasize this point; I think every woman should take kindergarten work for her own culture and training. Whether or not she is ever a mother herself she will know how to be a mother to other people's children and the knowledge can but be a help and blessing to her. It is a lovely study, that of child nature. It is a beautiful experience to clasp a little child's hand and to feel its little confiding hopes and plans and beliefs. One feels stronger and better for it. There is no place in New-York City where kindergarten training is free?"

NORMAL COLLEGE RULES.

"Only one place—the Normal College. And that is free only to its own normal students. Possibly, the bearer of a certificate from some other well-known normal institute might obtain entrance there, but I am not certain. There are a number of schools where kindergarten training may be had. Those that I recall now are the Teachers' College, Professor Felix Adler's Workingmen's School, No. 100 West Fifty-fourth-st.; Pratt Institute, Brooklyn; Miss Jennie Hunter's Training School, in One-hundred-and-twenty-seventh-st.; Mrs. Krauss's Training Class, at the San Remo Hotel, Eighth-ave. and Seventy-fifth-st.; Mrs. Alice Elliman's Training School, on Broadway and Fifty-eighth-st., and my own training school at No. 12 East Seventy-third-st."

"What is the average yearly expense for kindergarten training?"

"About \$300, I think. These are my terms."

"Are there any new kindergarten movements in the city now?"

"The Rev. J. J. Foust, a young Methodist minister, and the pastor of Cornell Memorial Church, in East Seventy-sixth-st., between Second and Third-aves., is much interested in child development and kindergarten work. His idea is to keep children and young people constantly occupied and interested in something, and he has instituted a children's choir in order to make the little ones feel a personal interest in the religious services. Every day, and he has boys' and girls' reading clubs and various societies for the young people. He is now planning for a kindergarten of at least one hundred children, and some of my pupils will assist him in establishing it. He says he will give the best and most attractive rooms in the city to the kindergarten, and he hopes to have a large school."

ANOTHER CLERGYMAN INTERESTED.

"The Rev. Henry E. Stimson, formerly pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle, believes in employing kindergarten methods in the Sunday-school. President Walter L. Hervey, of the Teachers' College, also approves this, and wrote a recent article in

'The Review of Reviews' on 'Kindergartens in the Sunday-school.'

"Are many kindergartens open in the city now?"

"There are several. There is a child's hospital and day nursery on the East Side that has a kindergarten now running. There are many bright young women who have no special object and aim in view who might fall into line and do a most beautiful and helpful charity work by giving their time and services free to this kindergarten field. If they would stop to think how much good lasting good they would be doing, I believe many would go right to work. Their reward would come sooner or later. Of course, they must train themselves for it."

"Miss L. Caldwell owns four tenement-houses in East Thirty-ninth-st., and she is doing a vast amount of good there. Her example would be a fine one for other tenement-house owners. Miss Caldwell has had the fences taken down that separated the four yards, and has turned the space into a playground for the children of those four houses. One flat has been reserved for sewing classes for the girls and a kindergarten for the smaller children. Two large bathtubs have been put in and the four houses really make a small neighborhood settlement, where the welfare of the children and consequently that of the parents is thoughtfully looked after."

"There is a field for free teaching for young women who do not care to go through the world without helping in its work for that which is highest and best."

"Mrs. Barnes is a well-known authority on child-study and kindergarten work. She is the president of the Mothers' Congress of the City of New-York, and chairman of the Mothers' Congress of New-York State. She is also Editor of 'The Mother's Voice,' the official organ of the Mothers' Congress. In addition to all this, she has her kindergarten training-school at No. 12 East Seventy-third-st., and is one of the busy, helpful women who are managing the world's burdens and making them lighter."

BUSINESS OF BATHING.

THOSE WHO REGULARLY INDULGE IN LUXURIOUS BATHS GENERALLY ENJOY GOOD HEALTH.

The business of bathing should be advanced to the importance and beauty of a science and art. These warm, enervating days, when the bath should be made as beneficial as it is refreshing and agreeable. There are many kinds of baths that are really tonic in their action upon the body, and during the summer, when the tissues and nerves waste and wear most, the water should be made as healthful and strengthening as possible. Every one knows the value of the salt bath; it is always good and can be easily taken at home. Sea salt is best, but if the crystals cannot be obtained a large cupful of very coarse salt dropped in the bathtub will produce a refreshing and strengthening result. The coarse salt should be dropped in hot water and the water allowed to cool until it reaches the temperature that is best suited to the bather. Put in enough salt to make the skin feel sticky when you leave the water; rinse off thoroughly in barely tepid or perfectly cold water into which the juice of several lemons has been squeezed. This will make one feel much refreshed and will soften the skin and whiten it."

THE PINE BATH.

The pine bath is a luxury and benefit one can easily afford, and the taking of one once a week will materially brighten the flesh, strengthen the



KINDERGARTEN EXERCISES IN THE "OPEN AIR" SCHOOL.

muscles, and I come perilously near saying, delighting one's very bones! Get a quantity of fresh pine needles—the long, threadlike leaves of the pine tree—lay them straight until you have a bundle about as large as the two fingers. Tie this securely in the middle with a bit of twine, and then twist and bruise the bundle until the needles are half crushed and give out a strong and delightful fragrance. Drop them at once into the bathtub—a dozen or more of these little bundles—and turn on hot water. Let it be almost boiling. Put on a wrapper and possess your soul in patience while the water is cooling and getting all that lovely pine odor and juice in solution. When it has cooled to the temperature of the body remove the little bundles of needles, and feel grateful for the delicious "sleeta" before you—also beneath you and around you! The water will be of a yellow color and as sweet smelling as possible. A thorough bath, with plenty of coconut oil soap, should be taken before getting into the pine water, so that the pores of the skin may be cleaned and softened and in a proper condition for absorbing all the benefits to be derived from the application for which you will ever thereafter "Get in the tub and stay there for a full hour. It is a most delightful occupation, and while you are enjoying it your nostrils are gratefully filling with the rich, warm pine odor, and your lungs are fairly revelling in the sweet, impregnated air."

Do not rub the body on leaving the bath, but dry it by applying soft old damask towels to it. Slip into a soft, linen nightgown, rub pure cold cream over the face, and in the hour or so that you go to sleep so much the better, for you will probably dream of wandering through the sweet, cool pine woods in which you wake you will feel so rested and refreshed and rejuvenated that you will wish you were twins, so you could have a double capacity for enjoyment."

THE MILK BATH.

A milk bath is exceedingly refreshing and beneficial, and is not too expensive to be indulged in

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once a week during the summer. To a bathtub half full of warm water add a gallon of fresh, sweet milk. If you care to pour in another gallon, well and good; but a satisfactory and healthful bath may be had by using only one gallon. Let the water and milk both be a little warmer than tepid, and let the body, immersed to the neck and stretched at full length in the tub, slowly absorb the emollient properties of the milk. Stay in for twenty or thirty minutes. Rub the body thoroughly with a bath mitten. Your flesh will feel as if it were made of velvet when you leave the tub. Your entire body will be conscious of a most soothing and rested sensation that is highly beneficial. Lie down for an hour or more and see if you feel like a new person. Bathe the face in a bowl of warm milk and water, in the proportion of three parts of milk to one of water, will be found a most delicious beauty-recipe. Rice, lemon, bay rum, cucumber and melon baths will be discussed next.

BEYOND ALL PRAISE.

The Queen's bearing during the Jubilee procession was in its simple sincerity and kindness beyond all praise. Those who were near her say that she kept repeating, again and again, as she heard the terrific applause of the people, "God bless



KINDERGARTEN EXERCISES IN THE "OPEN AIR" SCHOOL.

them! God bless them! God bless them!" On the whole her expression was grave and yet sweet, as though she felt the awfulness as well as the joy of her unique position on that unique occasion. Once or twice she burst into tears, but nevertheless she continued constantly to bow. Once, when her feelings overcame her, the Princess of Wales leaned forward and pressed her hand.

Her Majesty on June 22 crossed London Bridge for the first time in her long life. Fifty-four years ago she had passed under it with the Prince Consort to inspect the Thames tunnel.

At the People's Palace, where 1,200 crippled children at the great Jubilee meal, the Princess Victoria went among the tables, and her gay chatter soon overcame the shyness of the guests, so much so that a little girl invited the princess to have a drink of lemonade, and the princess accordingly had a drink of lemonade.

GOOD DRINK FOR AN INVALID.

This is said to be a good drink for an invalid: To a pint of sweet milk add the juice of a sweet orange. Heat slowly until curd forms. Remove from the stove, strain, and let the mixture cool.

A WOMAN BARRISTER.

Miss Ethel Benjamin, a young Jewess, has been admitted to the New-Zealand bar as barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court. She is the first woman barrister in the English colonial courts.

THE SHILLING PARASOL.

Once, when Queen Victoria was staying in Nice, she chanced to see a pretty little black and white sunshade exposed in a shop window, and marked at the low price of one shilling. Her Majesty bought the sunshade, and, to the horror of her family, it is said, carried it in season and out for the rest of the summer. She even wanted to return it to its next season, but the Princess of Wales succeeded in inducing her to relinquish the idea.

THE "FISHING GAME" IN THE FREE KINDERGARTEN EXERCISES.

my summers at Sharon, Richfield Springs and later in Newport and West Point, there were no end of beaux. We had men in plenty to dance with and flirt with, but now there seems literally no one. It is because there are fewer young men than in my day, or it is because they no longer frequent such places?"

"The answer to this social conundrum is very simple. The days when men in good society frequented hotel verandas and ballrooms are gone forever. To flirt with a pretty girl or dance with her during the summer evenings no longer presents any attraction to the end-of-the-century youth; the "carpet knight" is happily obsolete, and to the credit of the young women themselves such an existence appears no more desirable to them than it does to the opposite sex. The conditions of American society have materially altered. We no longer congregate at hotels. Cottage life has completely replaced the less civilized existence, and sport has taken the place of flirting—a desirable change, none will deny, except, perhaps, the anxious matrons who deplore the lost opportunities of their day, and who declare they do not see how their daughters will marry under the present conditions. This is a well-founded fear, for certainly the number of women bachelors (no one dreams of calling them old maids nowadays), is increasing to an alarming extent."

HANGINGS TO MATCH FLOWERS.

A lady who is fond of her beautiful garden and equally beautiful house has conceived the novel and effective idea of having a different set of curtains and portières in her own especial sanctum for each change of season to match the floral decorations in the vases; the great variety in chintzes in late years making this pretty conceit entirely feasible, and as the draperies for her boudoir are very simply made it is easy to slip one set of curtains off and introduce another place them with others. In early spring she chooses a design of bunches of violets on a white ground for her hangings, and fills her vases with

for flowers. They are remarkably successful in the planting and raising of flowers and shrubs, and while they pet and nurse and care for their roses and violets and carnations, at the same time they are putting permanent roses in their own cheeks by living out in the fresh air and filling their lungs with sunbaked ozone. Outdoor occupation that is not hard and rough is excellent for women.

WOMAN'S PAGE APPRECIATED.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: I appreciate the honor of being enrolled as a member of your Sunshine Society, which is carrying so much sunshine where it is most needed. I wish for your continued success in your grand and noble work. Yours very truly,

MARGARET P. PARCELL.
The Rhineland School, No. 350 East Eighty-eighth-st., New-York City, July 26, 1897.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I greatly enjoy the T. S. S. column. Very truly yours,
Miss A. G. MILLER.
Nuttall, W. Va.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I read the Sunshine column with interest from day to day. Truly yours,

Grand View Mountain House, East Windham, Greene County, N. Y.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The Women's Page is truly a treat to all the "shut-ins," whether shut in by sickness or unceasing home cares and labor. Truly yours,
Mrs. A. B. ENGBREM.
No. 148 North Main-st., Rutland, Vt., July 26, 1897.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I enjoy the Sunshine column greatly. Truly yours,
A. W. L.
Morris Plains, N. J., July 20, 1897.

both held little chairs turned down with their backs to the ground, and grasping the two rear legs, the little play-farmers pushed their play-ploughs over the grass, while all the other little ones, as well as Mrs. Barnes, skipped around them, singing a merry song of the fields.

After this was finished, the "fish game" was



MRS. F. W. BARNES.
President of the Mothers' Congress of the State of New-York.

played, two little girls being inclosed by the circle, and representing the movement of fish as they "swam" about. Then the little ring broke up into separate active little links, composed of a single

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To make this basque for a woman of medium size will require three and one-fourth yards of forty-four-inch material. The pattern, No. 7.112, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch measure.

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